

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for providing an announcement to a calling party when the calling party calls a disconnected telephone number of a called party, the method comprising:

5 providing a calling party information for a disconnected telephone number of the called party;

determining whether the calling party is authorized to receive a first announcement in accordance with the calling party information; and

10 providing the first announcement to the calling party if the calling party is authorized.

2. The method according to claim 1 further comprising providing an alternate announcement if the first announcement is not provided.

3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the calling party information includes at least a portion of a telephone number of the calling party.

4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the at least a portion of the telephone number includes an area code of the calling party.

5. The method according to claim 4 wherein the at least a portion of the telephone number further includes at least three digits of the telephone number of the calling party.

6. The method according to claim 1 wherein the calling party information comprises information about calling parties that are authorized to receive the first announcement.

7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the calling party information comprises information about calling parties that are not authorized to receive the first announcement.

8. The method according to claim 1 wherein the first announcement is provided by an announcement server.

9. The method according to claim 8 further including providing a connection from the calling party to the announcement server.

10. The method according to claim 1 further comprising providing a call log to the called party.

11. A telecommunications system for providing an announcement to a calling party when the calling party calls a disconnected telephone number of a called party, the system comprising:

a service control point, wherein the service control point accesses calling party information for a determined disconnected telephone number of the called party; and

wherein a first announcement is provided to the calling party if the calling party is authorized to receive the first announcement in accordance with the calling party information.

12. The system according to claim 11 wherein an alternate announcement is provided if the first announcement is not provided.

13. The system according to claim 1 wherein the calling party information includes at least a portion of a telephone number of the calling party.

14. The system according to claim 13 wherein the at least a portion of the telephone number includes an area code of the calling party.

15. The system according to claim 14 wherein the at least a portion of the telephone number further includes at least three digits of the telephone number of the calling party.

16. The system according to claim 11 wherein the calling party information comprises information about calling parties that are authorized to receive the first announcement.

17. The system according to claim 11 wherein the calling party information comprises information about calling parties that are not authorized to receive the first announcement.

18. The system according to claim 11 further including an announcement server, wherein the announcement server provides the first announcement.

19. The system according to claim 18 further including a switch, wherein the switch provides a connection from the calling party to the announcement server.

20. The system according to claim 11 further comprising a call log to be provided to the called party.

21. A method for providing an announcement to a calling party when the calling party calls a disconnected telephone number of a called party, the method comprising:

receiving a call from a calling party to a disconnected telephone number of a called party;

determining whether the called party is authorized to receive call forwarding information for the called party; and

if the calling party is authorized, providing call forwarding information for the called party.

22. The method according to claim 21 further comprising:

if the calling party is not authorized, providing an alternate announcement to the calling party.

23. The method according to claim 21 wherein the act of determining comprises determining whether the calling party is listed on an accept list.

5 24. The method according to claim 21 wherein the act of determining comprises determining whether the calling party is listed on a reject list.

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